

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (currently amended): A process comprising:

- (i) crosslinking a polymer; and
- (ii) adapting ~~the~~ a conformation of the polymer obtained from step (i) to a template dissolved or suspended in a solvent by interacting the polymer with the template, so as to increase the interaction enthalpy between the conformation and the template by more than 0.1 kcal/mole, the template being a chemical compound or a biological structure;
wherein the polymer is prepared on a support material.

Claim 26-30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (currently amended): The process of claim 30 ~~25~~ further comprising the step of applying the polymer to a the support material in layers in at least two successive steps.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The process of claim 31 wherein the applying step leads to a primarily crosslinked polymer network that has a conformation that can be adapted to the template.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A polymeric network prepared by the process of claim 25.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The process of claim 25 further comprising:

- (iii) separating the template from ~~the~~ other substances, by the polymer obtained from step (ii) being exposed to a mixture of the template and the other substances and ~~preferentially~~ attracting the template to the polymer.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The process of claim 25 further comprising:

- (iii) enhancing conversion of the template, by the polymer obtained from step (ii) being exposed to the template and attracting the template to the ~~polymer~~ polymer's surface and temporarily binding the template to the surface.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The process of claim 25 further comprising:

(iii) enhancing an ability to recognize the presence of the template, by the polymer obtained from step (ii) being exposed to the template and attracting the template to the ~~polymer~~ polymer's surface.

Claim 37 (cancel)

Claim 38 (previously presented): The process of claim 25 wherein, in step (ii), the polymer is adapted to multiple templates to obtain multiple conformations.

Claims 39-43 (canceled)